



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
NAVAL INSPECTOR GENERAL  
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WASHINGTON NAVY YARD DC 20374-5006

IN REPLY REFER TO:

3058  
Ser N00/0189  
24 Feb 14

From: Naval Inspector General  
To: Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Energy, Installations,  
and Environment) (ASN EI&E)

Subj: OVERSEAS DRINKING WATER

Ref: (a) Overseas Drinking Water Special Study II of Jul 13  
(b) Overseas Potable Water Study of Jan 09

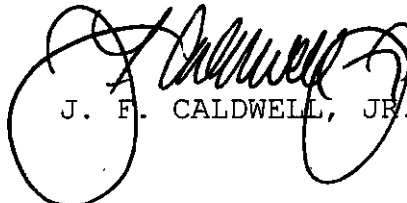
Encl: (1) Questions for CNIC and NAVFAC  
(2) Questions for BUMED

1. When I became the Naval Inspector General, I was informed of significant disagreement within DON regarding the Overseas Drinking Water Special Study (reference (a)). I embarked on an internal review with the NAVINSGEN personnel involved in the study. Having completed that review, I want to engage your team to understand the areas of disagreement.

2. I respectfully request you take the lead to bring together appropriate representatives from supporting organizations to discuss and address CNIC's comments on reference (a). I also have additional questions formulated as a result of my own review that are included in enclosures (1) and (2). Importantly, I seek to understand the data CNIC uses to assess the quality of overseas drinking water, and the processes, procedures and oversight currently in place and at the time of the 2013 study. This will likely require several meetings. I request the first meeting occur within the next few weeks.

3. My point of contact for coordinating these meetings is (b)(6), (b)(7)(c)  
(b)(6), (b)(7)(c) (phone:202-433-2000 email:(b)(6), (b)(7)(c)@navy.mil)

Sincerely,

  
J. F. CALDWELL, JR.

Copy to:  
SECNAV OGC, OPNAV N4, CNIC, BUMED, NAVFAC

## Navy Overseas Drinking Water (ODW) System Questions CNIC and NAVFAC

1. Actions to implement SECNAV and CNO direction. Please discuss the actions to implement and execute the SECNAV's guidance following the 2009 Report. Also discuss actions taken in accordance with Admiral Roughead's April 2009 memorandum to SECNAV "...address an expanded focus from only "Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL)" testing to a more comprehensive "health of the water distribution system."
2. Oversight and Management Approach. Describe your organization's management strategy to ensure Navy personnel at overseas installations receive the same quality of drinking water as they do in the United States? How does this differ from the process administered by the EPA and most States for CONUS installations? Specifically discuss drinking water oversight inspections conducted in FY13, violations cited and the process for tracking and monitoring corrective actions.
3. Elements of Oversight. Discuss oversight for the following components of overseas water systems (by whom, frequency, authorities, distribution of findings, follow-up, etc.).
  - a. Utility operations
  - b. Utility management
  - c. Environmental
  - d. Medical surveillance
  - e. Laboratory analyses
  - f. Housing (Navy-owned, leased and off-base)
  - g. Leased operational buildings/installations
  - h. Other overseas locations occupied by Navy personnel
  - i. Also discuss the use of web-based data to monitor system performance.
4. Data and CNIC's 2013 Report. Please present and discuss the data CNIC used for the FY13 Navy Shore Drinking Water Quality Report.

Enclosure (1)

5. Sanitary Surveys. Discuss the purpose and requirements for sanitary surveys, including the organizations tasked to conduct these surveys. Show how deficiencies from overseas sanitary surveys are tracked and monitored until corrected? Discuss the role of Navy preventive medicine personnel in Sanitary Surveys. Please be prepared to discuss the most recent sanitary surveys for these overseas sites: Sigonella (all sites), Diego Garcia, Djibouti, and Bahrain.

6. Leases and Contracts. Discuss how the Navy ensures that leases and contracts that provide drinking water to Navy personnel meet the same requirements as CONUS water systems?

7. One Day Assessments. Discuss deficiencies documented in CNIC's One Day Assessments of Feb 2013 and discuss corrective action for the items identified.

8. Lab Samples. Discuss the process to ensure laboratory analyses of drinking water meet the same quality control and quality assurance requirements as drinking water labs in the U.S.

9. Training and Certifications. Discuss training and certification required for key overseas water system positions (i.e., water system operators, utility managers, medical support staff, etc.).

10. Health Risk Assessments. Discuss the Navy's policy for conducting public health risks assessments when drinking water exceeds acceptable standards (i.e., MCL)?

a. Is this consistent with procedures for systems operated in the U.S.?

b. Discuss required actions if an MCL is violated.

11. Sigonella (all sites) specific questions. Please be prepared to discuss the history of Sigonnella water systems including bromates, system performance, corrosion control, health assessments and assessments of ground water under the direct influence of surface water (GWUDISW).

# Navy Overseas Drinking Water (ODW) System Questions

## BUMED

### 1. Policy and Procedures.

a. Discuss BUMED's role in protecting public health and in oversight inspections associated with the ODW Program including organizations involved (e.g., BUMED, NAVMEDREGION, NMCPHC, etc.).

b. Discuss BUMED and NMCPHC's participation and role on the Water Quality Oversight Council including authorities.

### 2. Professional Qualifications and Performance of Preventive Medicine Authorities (PMAs):

a. Discuss the qualifications (e.g. required training, experience, education) to be designated as a PMA?

b. Discuss BUMED's oversight role to ensure PMA skill sets are appropriate and maintained. Discuss actions to standardize processes and knowledge across the enterprise.

c. Does the curriculum at the PMT School reflect PMA responsibilities in the ODW?

d. Discuss the role of PMAs (or NMCPHC representatives) in Sanitary Surveys.

3. Health Risk Assessments: Discuss BUMED procedures for conducting public health risks assessments on drinking water violations. Who is authorized to conduct these assessments (PMA or NMCPHC)?

a. Discuss the rules pertaining to the use of "water not fit for human consumption" for purposes other than ingestion (e.g., bathing, cooking, oral hygiene, showering).

b. Discuss the qualifications, training and experience required to conduct health risk assessments.

c. How does BUMED ensure proficiency of those assigned to perform health risk assessments?

4. BUMED Medical Surveillance of ODW: Please discuss BUMED's medical surveillance with regard to ODW program. Discuss the relationship of this process versus the bacteriological compliance monitoring performed by installation public works personnel.

a. What is the PMA's role in BUMED's medical surveillance? Also discuss guidance provided to PMAs.

b. Do currently assigned PMAs or PMTs meet education and training requirements IAW OPNAVINST 5090.1D for biological testing?

c. Do Preventive Medicine Water Laboratories that process ODW samples meet certification/accreditation requirements IAW OPNAVINST 5090.1D?

5. Lead in Drinking Water: Discuss BUMED compliance with the requirements in OPNAVINST 5090.1C para 10-5.2(c) and 21-5.12.